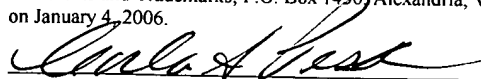




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CARLA A. PESTKA

**PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN THE APPLICATION OF
HIDETOSHSI AOKI, ET AL.

DOCKET NO.: HOKUSHIN-6

SERIAL NO.: 10/734,021

EXAMINER: P. D. MULCAHY

FILED: DECEMBER 10, 2003

ART UNIT: 1713

TITLE: MODERATELY RESISTTIVE RUBBER COMPOSITION
AND RUBBER MEMBER

WILMINGTON, DE
DATE: January 4, 2006

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mailstop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2005, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following comments, which, together with the accompanying literature references, are believed to obviate the outstanding rejections, placing Claims 1-6 in condition for immediate allowance.

The present invention relates to rubber compositions and articles made therefrom which exhibit moderate electrical resistance through the incorporation of at least one ionic liquid.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 112, as discussed in sections 1-3 of the Detailed Action, and specifically that the term "ionic liquid" is indefinite. This term is well-recognized in the art, and refers to a salt which is in the liquid state at room temperature. It can also be called "ambient temperature molten salt." The term particularly refers to a salt having a melting point of 70°C or less, and preferably